

***EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 9, 2007***

The Emergency Management Advisory Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday January 9, 2007 at 8:00am in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Advisory Council Members present were: Chairman Nathan Miller, Vice Chairman John Walker, Carol Shelby, Dave Reagan and John Withers. Also present: Secretary Jennifer Prange, Commissioner Ruth Shedd, Director Mark Kirby and Assistant Director Tim Batta.

TEMA Technician Martin Webb was also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Reagan moved to approve minutes from the November 14, 2006 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Kirby updated the Council on the HAZ-MAT response to an incident in Carroll County. He issued a copy of the letter sent to Dr. Sayers' (Carroll Consolidated Schools Superintendent). Director Kirby mentioned that the letter had been approved by County Attorney Dave Luhman. It was reported that payment had not yet been received for services rendered. The bill for this incident was approximately \$10,000. After talking to Superintendent Sayers', whom is still reluctant to pay the bill, it was decided that the issue will go before the School Board in Carroll County. Director Kirby will attend the meeting and update the council at the next meeting. He also added that if payment was not received after the School Board meeting, he will turn this matter over to the County Attorney.

Training Exercise at Ross Camp

A district wide exercise will take place at Ross Camp/Ross Hills on January 27, 2007. This exercise is open to all personnel in the district including fire, police and emergency services. Director Kirby expects over 200 attendees. Martin Webb along with other area emergency responders are working with Purdue Homeland Security Institute to finalize the plans. He mentioned that local attendees will fulfill required training at this exercise.

2005 Grants

Director Kirby updated the Council on the status of 2005 grants. These grants are currently 70% expended. It is the Director's intention to fulfill those obligations for the grants as soon as possible so that TEMA will have access to other grant money. He also mentioned that all local agencies benefited from the 2005 grant money. All fire

departments in the county have a Thermal Imaging Camera that allows firemen to enter a smoke filled building and identify people. Director Kirby added that all grants from 2003 and 2004 are cleaned up. Also, the grant received for the gas masks which was in danger of being repossessed has been resolved. For 2006 grants, TEMA will receive a \$150,000 upgrade to the mobile operations truck, satellite phone system, radios, updates to cameras and support equipment. They are also hiring a district coordinator and buying more laptops for the GIS project. Director Kirby noted that anticipated 2007 grants could possibly be around the \$500,000 range.

Grants Administration

TEMA is currently requesting appropriations from the County Council to hire a grant administrator. Director Kirby along with other Council Members agreed on the importance of hiring a person to facilitate and monitor grant money.

Grant History

2004 Grants	\$1,200,000
2005 Grants	\$680,000
2006 Grants	\$275,000 (TEMA only)

Currently, TEMA is managing a \$160, 000 in grant money for Purdue to install new cameras in Ross Aide Stadium.

Pandemic Flu Issue

Director Kirby informed the board that the Pandemic Flu training and education is consuming a lot of his time. TEMA is working closely with several different agencies to provide support and training. The community has been very receptive. Director Kirby noted that he has had great support and training from the Red Cross in identifying this issue and creating awareness.

Budget 2007

The County Council approved the budget without any deletions. There was a small increase in the garage fund due to gas prices. Director Kirby feels that TEMA is in good shape for 2007, and hopeful that he will not have to request additional appropriations. TEMA has \$40,000 for the Siren Project update in Tippecanoe County. Assistant Director Tim Batta is spearheading the project and working with a firm out of Indianapolis to finalize the project. TEMA has completed a lot of the work to keep the cost low. He anticipates this project being finished fairly soon. Siren testing went well. The last test indicated only 3 sirens did not activate. Efforts are being made to identify the problem.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Dave Reagan along with the communication committee has been researching possible emergency phone systems to alert the public in the event of bad weather or other emergency situations. It was noted that the phone system would only be a back-up or secondary notice to the siren system. It was discussed that the phone system would be a great tool in warning large groups of people such as; sporting event attendees, daycare centers or other large events unable to hear siren warnings. The committee determined after researching several different systems that phones aren't fast enough to alert general public. Director Kirby informed the council that the Sheriff's Department does have a Reverse 911 system. In an effort to save money, Director Kirby suggest we utilize their system. Dave Reagan is in agreement. Mark Kirby will work out details on which groups or citizens will benefit from the Reverse 911. The Reverse 911 system has 2 capabilities. The first is to utilize the company to make mass calls. Several calls can be made in a short time, but cost .20 each. The second would use local phone lines to notify a particular geographic area to alert them of closures or other important non-urgent information. TEMA will have the ability to activate system from their location. Director Kirby would hope that the 911 fund in Tippecanoe County would absorb the cost of using this system.

HAZ-MAT TEAM REPORT

Deputy Director Batta reported that the team had one HAZ-MAT call since the last meeting. This call was received from a concerned citizen in West Lafayette that received an envelope opened with an unknown substance inside. The West Lafayette Police alerted the HAZ-MAT team. The team responded; with initial testing it was determined that the material was negative for Anthrax or any hazardous material. Information obtained from the caller proved that this incident did not have any red flags to indicate this person may have been a target.

NEW BUSINESS

President Nathan Miller distributed an information sheet containing the structure responsibilities of the TEMA agency. He emphasized the importance of defining the core responsibilities. President Miller asked the entire council to review the information and be prepared to discuss it at the March meeting. He also asked that if members had any input on the Christopher Burke report he would welcome discussion at that time also. It was asked of Director Kirby that he provide documentation of training completed by staff members and expiration dates to insure that TEMA is in compliance with state guidelines.

Meeting adjourned.